

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
NOVEMBER 10, 2009

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND)
EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS FOR THE)
CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM AND)
THE LOWER DES PLAINES RIVER:)
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 35 Ill.)
Adm. Code Parts 301, 302, 303)
and 304)

R08-9
(Rulemaking -
Water)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS at the hearing of the
above-entitled cause before Marie Tipsord, Hearing
Officer, taken before Rebecca A. Graziano, Certified
Shorthand Reporter within and for the County of Cook
and State of Illinois, at the Bilandic Building,
Room N-502, Chicago, Illinois, commencing at the
hour of 1:15 on the 10th day of November, A.D.,
2009.

A P P E A R A N C E S

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD:

Ms. Marie Tipsord, Hearing Officer
Ms. Alisa Liu, P.E., Environmental Scientist
Mr. Anand Rao, Senior Environmental Scientist
Mr. G. Tanner Girard, Acting Chairman
Mr. Shundar Lin
Mr. Thomas Johnson
Ms. Andrea Moore

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:

Ms. Stefanie Diers
Ms. Deborah Williams

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY CENTER,
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BY: MR. ALBERT ETTINGER
MS. JESSICA DEXTER

Appeared on behalf of ELPC, Prairie Rivers
Network, and Sierra Club,

FRANZETTI LAW FIRM P.C.
10 South LaSalle Street
Suite 3600
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 251-5590

BY: MS. SUSAN FRANZETTI

Appeared on behalf of the Midwest Generation,
L.L.C.,

1 MS. FRANZETTI: We have copied the
2 full and complete copy of Ms. Wozniak's pre-filed
3 testimony that you reserved with an exhibit number
4 yesterday for us, so I wanted to give that to you.

5 MS. TIPSORD: We will admit
6 Ms. Wozniak's testimony as Exhibit 364. Thank you.
7 And I believe we're ready to go to Mr. Ettinger.

8 MR. ETTINGER: Yes. I am Albert
9 Ettinger of the Environmental Law and Policy Center,
10 and I represent various environmental groups some of
11 the time. I'm going to start on my sheet here, and
12 then I'm going to go through some of your testimony
13 and the exhibits to it.

14 I'm going to skip question three
15 for the time being, but I'm going to ask now
16 about -- I'm going to ask pre-filed question five,
17 which is on Page 3 of your pre-filed testimony. You
18 state the changes in flow can adversely affect
19 nest-building fish. Have nest-building fish been
20 found in EA stream surveys?

21 MR. SEEGERT: Yes. The nest building
22 species that we've found are mainly members of the
23 sunfish family, particularly -- and I mentioned some
24 of these earlier -- large mouth bass, bluegill,

1 green sunfish, pumpkinseed, and orange spotted
2 sunfish.

3 And also channel catfish, which is
4 a nest-building species that occurs occasionally --
5 in other words it's uncommon -- in the Upper Dresden
6 Island Pool, and then very rarely upstream of
7 Brandon Road Lock and dam. So that's a
8 nest-building species, which is uncommon in the
9 Upper Dresden Pool, and rare further upstream.

10 And then there are other
11 nest-building species that include some of the
12 darters that are rare or absent. So there are some
13 nest-building species, mainly the sunfish and to a
14 lesser extent the catfish, that are present, and
15 other ones that aren't.

16 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Six, how does
17 aquatic vegetation in the Upper Dresden Pool compare
18 to aquatic vegetation in the Illinois River?

19 MR. SEEGERT: I haven't studied
20 aquatic vegetation in the Illinois River enough to
21 be able to make a valid comparison.

22 MR. ETTINGER: Did you look at the
23 aquatic vegetation that was present below Dresden
24 Island Lock and Dam when you did the studies of the

1 fishery there?

2 MR. SEEGERT: I did, but -- I mean, I
3 was in that section of river, but it was many years
4 ago in that particular section. And so my
5 recollection isn't good enough to allow for a valid
6 comparison.

7 MR. ETTINGER: To your knowledge, does
8 the temperature in the water affect the nature or
9 species of the aquatic vegetation that would be
10 present in the water?

11 MR. SEEGERT: This is just a general
12 question? Temperature anywhere?

13 MR. ETTINGER: Does temperature affect
14 the nature of the aquatic vegetation you'd expect to
15 find in the wild?

16 MR. SEEGERT: I'm not an expert on
17 aquatic macrophyte development in terms of
18 what -- how different macrophyte -- I would just --
19 I would reasonably assume that there are some range
20 of differences in the tolerance of macrophytes, just
21 like there is in fish.

22 But I wouldn't know what
23 macrophytes are or aren't tolerant. I do know from
24 my personal observations a number of cooling lakes

1 that many aquatic -- strike that.

2 A number of aquatic plants, rooted
3 aquatics, are very temperature tolerant, because we
4 sample a number of places where water temperatures
5 are in the high to mid 90s, and yet you can have
6 good aquatic development.

7 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. All right.

8 Turning now to Page 4 of your testimony, you discuss
9 barge traffic. Are you aware as to whether there is
10 any more barge traffic above the I-55 bridge than
11 below?

12 SEEGERT: I would -- I haven't done a
13 specific study of that, no.

14 MR. ETTINGER: Do you know how
15 the -- whether there's more or less barge traffic
16 above or below Dresden Island Lock and Dam?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Again, I have not
18 investigated that.

19 MR. ETTINGER: Are you aware of any
20 waterways with barge traffic that are able to
21 support a healthy fishery?

22 MR. SEEGERT: I haven't specifically
23 looked into that question. I would say, again,
24 based on the waterways in which I've worked on, the

1 Mississippi River supports barge traffic. And I
2 would say in general the Mississippi River has a
3 healthy fish community.

4 Again, I haven't done a specific
5 study that's been designed to determine attainment
6 and non-attainment, but the studies I have been
7 involved with on the Mississippi River I've
8 generally found what I would call healthy fish
9 communities. So I would say that that's a river
10 where there is barge traffic and that sports a
11 healthy fish community.

12 MR. ETTINGER: Have you looked at the
13 Wabash River?

14 SEEGERT: The Wabash river does not
15 support barge traffic.

16 MR. ETTINGER: The Ohio River?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Yes. Well, I've done a
18 lot of work on the Ohio River. Now, the Ohio River
19 is a good example of where you're setting the bar or
20 ORSANCO, the Ohio River sanitation commission.

21 MR. ETTINGER: ORASNCO is good enough.

22 MR. SEEGERT: ORASNCO. ORASNCO has
23 developed the Ohio River specific version of the
24 IBI. The IBI is just, kind of, a family. It's a

1 general approach, and you try to make it specific to
2 certain water bodies.

3 So they've developed a thing
4 called ORFIN, the Ohio River Fish Index, and they,
5 kind of, wrestled around with some of the same
6 issues you had here. And for the most part, the
7 ORFIN scores do meet what they believe is an
8 appropriate index. I don't know if they've tied it
9 specifically to an attainment, non-attainment issue.

10 And certainly, if you look at the
11 fish community in the Ohio River, it is depressed
12 compared to what the Ohio River would be without the
13 impoundments.

14 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. And we agree
15 there's barge traffic in the Illinois River below
16 Dresden island Lock and Dam? Have you looked at
17 that water?

18 MR. SEEGERT: I haven't specifically.
19 I mean, other than the work we've done just in the
20 very short section a number of years ago below
21 Dresden Island Lock and Dam. So that's a very short
22 section of river. I don't think that provides a
23 representative picture. But I'm aware of other
24 studies that have been done on the Illinois River,

1 but I have not personally been involved in those
2 studies.

3 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Now, we touched
4 on this before, but I just want to ask the, sort of,
5 general question. Can lakes meet Clean Water Act
6 standards?

7 MR. SEEGERT: My short answer would be
8 yes, they can.

9 MR. ETTINGER: Would you use the
10 same -- how would you go about determining whether a
11 lake was meeting Clean Water Act standards?

12 MR. SEEGERT: Well, that's a good
13 question.

14 MR. ETTINGER: Thank you.

15 MS. FRANZETTI: Don't encourage him.

16 MR. SEEGERT: The -- and actually,
17 there's a fair amount of research in that arena.
18 The state that I'm most familiar with that's
19 pursuing that is Wisconsin.

20 Wisconsin believes that
21 they -- their goal is to try to come up
22 with -- we'll just call it a lake IBI. So again,
23 you would have obviously different metrics. But
24 conceptually, it's the same.

1 In this case, I personally
2 disagree with that. I think lakes are inherently
3 simpler. By that, I mean in a riverine fish
4 community, we might have to deal with 60, 70, 80
5 species of fish and assign it all sorts of
6 categories. Even a fairly diverse lake is going to
7 have 20 species of fish.

8 I think that in a lake situation,
9 an experienced, professional aquatic biologist can
10 take a look at fisheries data -- you obviously have
11 to have data -- and look at this and say yes, this
12 is what I expect. But it's still the same concept.

13 In one case, it's very structured,
14 and the IBI says what you should expect. In the
15 other case, it's a biologist sitting down. But I
16 think in lakes, you can look at a lake and it's just
17 simpler to, kind of, do the math in your head,
18 because you don't have to deal with 80 species. You
19 have to deal with 20 species in a lake.

20 MR. ETTINGER: So you would
21 just -- you'd grade a lake without looking at the
22 same number of species or expecting the same number
23 of species that you would if you were grading a
24 river?

1 MR. SEEGERT: Right, but you
2 would -- the IBI really isn't anything that's new.
3 It's just been formalized -- I mean, I've been doing
4 this kind of work for 30 years, and in this case we
5 always started with what do we expect, what should
6 be there.

7 And so in a lake, you say, well
8 what should be in a, quote, "good lake." And one of
9 the studies that I was asked about before was had I
10 done anything on lakes, or had I done anything for
11 state agencies, and I said for the Illinois DNR, and
12 one of the projects was to look up here in Lake
13 County for a species called a pugnose shiner.

14 And I don't want to over simplify
15 this, but I could walk to the boat landing, and in
16 that case just, kind of, walk around and if I saw a
17 highly diverse macrophyte community, then I would
18 say this is a prime candidate for this species.
19 That didn't mean the species was always there,
20 but -- and it could do the reverse.

21 If what I found was no aquatic
22 vegetation or only one kind of aquatic
23 vegetation -- a thing called myriophyllum, which is
24 an introduced species -- I'd say basically this lake

1 has been trashed. I'm not going to find a pugnose
2 shiner. I'd, of course, still go out and look and
3 do the investigation, but I would know -- and I'd
4 have a very good idea.

5 And so you'd want to say, well
6 what does a good lake in northeast Illinois have?
7 Well, it should have an assemblage of what I would
8 call lake minnows, blacknose shiner, blackchin
9 shiner, and then the rarest of them all, pugnose
10 shiner.

11 But you set up a series of
12 expectations, and whether those expectations
13 directly follow an IBI or they're established in the
14 mind of the biologist is the same process that you
15 go through, the same thought process, the same
16 logic.

17 What kind of species do I expect
18 in a good lake? I'd look at the fisheries data, and
19 I compare what's actually found versus reasonable
20 expectations for lakes in a particular geographic
21 area. And if we meet those expectations, I would
22 say yes, this is an attainment.

23 MR. ETTINGER: All right.

24 DR. GIRARD: Can I ask a quick

1 follow-up?

2 MR. ETTINGER: You're the boss here.

3 DR. GIRARD: Wisconsin is trying to
4 formalize the procedure for evaluating lakes.
5 Illinois does not have a formalized procedure at
6 this point in time?

7 MR. SEEGERT: That's correct.

8 DR. GIRARD: Thank you.

9 MR. ETTINGER: What kinds of fish
10 sampling gear does EA use?

11 MR. SEEGERT: I'm sorry. What kind of
12 gear?

13 MR. ETTINGER: What kind of equipment
14 do you use for fish sampling?

15 MR. SEEGERT: Are we talking about
16 this series of waterways?

17 MR. ETTINGER: Yes, I'm sorry.
18 Limit -- just tell me what you have used to sample
19 this -- the waterways that you consider relevant to
20 this proceeding.

21 MR. SEEGERT: Well, Mr. Vondruska's
22 our gear guru.

23 MR. ETTINGER: We haven't heard enough
24 from you.

1 MR. VONDRUSKA: For the long term
2 monitoring that we've conducted for Midwest
3 Generation and part of Commonwealth Edison, the
4 gears that we have used every year is
5 electrofishing -- it's three phases of
6 electrofishing -- and we use seining. Seining
7 consists of a six-foot by 25-foot straight seine
8 that -- I believe it's three sixteenths-inch mash.

9 During the 1993 to 1995 studies,
10 we also did gill netting with experimental gill
11 nets. Those were six foot deep, about 125 feet
12 long, and consisted of five experimental mesh panels
13 ranking from a half inch square up to a three-inch
14 square.

15 MR. ETTINGER: Does electrofishing
16 catch fish below three feet?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Well, yes.

18 MR. ETTINGER: How far does it go
19 down?

20 MR. SEEGERT: It depends on the
21 species and the size of the individual, the size of
22 the fish.

23 MR. ETTINGER: What would cause it to
24 go down further?

1 MR. SEEGERT: Bigger fish. The bigger
2 the fish is, the easier it is to shock. So you had
3 something -- and I know a whale isn't a fish, but if
4 a whale was down there we could shock him probably
5 40 feet down.

6 So big fish -- but in round
7 numbers, we generally think that six feet -- six,
8 seven feet is about as deep as we can get a good
9 cross section, and sometimes, depending on the
10 species, it might be ten feet. But six to ten feet
11 we can be effective. Below that, we generally would
12 not be particularly effective, we or anyone else.
13 It's just a limitation associated with the gear.

14 MR. ETTINGER: Now, I'm going to
15 display my biological knowledge here. Are larvae
16 generally smaller than fish?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Yeah. Larvae are the
18 opposite. They're opposite of the whales. They're
19 less than an inch.

20 MR. ETTINGER: Right. So generally
21 you'd been less effective at electrofishing for
22 larvae than you would for fish?

23 MR. SEEGERT: Correct. You collect
24 very few larval fish. So if you want to do a larval

1 fish study, such as we have done over the years, we
2 would use specialized gears that collect larvae,
3 because electrofishing is not very effective for
4 fish larvae.

5 MR. ETTINGER: And would the seining
6 get the larvae?

7 MR. SEEGERT: Joe mentioned a three
8 sixteenth inch mesh would retain some larvae. A lot
9 of the smaller larvae would likely pass through, and
10 then some of it is just random. And think,
11 basically, you have a net with a series of holes.
12 So using my pen as an example, I have a larvae, and
13 if it goes this way, it's going to go through the
14 hole. If it comes this way, it's not going to go
15 through the hole.

16 MS. TIPSORD: And for purposes of the
17 record, if it goes in straight, it can go through
18 the hole --

19 MR. SEEGERT: And sideways --

20 MS. TIPSORD: -- and sideways it would
21 be caught?

22 MR. SEEGERT: That's correct. But in
23 general, if we were doing -- wanted to use seining
24 as a technique, we'd use what we call as a larval

1 seine and go down to a really fine mesh.

2 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. In the studies
3 that we've done -- that you've done here, if we
4 wanted to figure out whether or not -- what you had
5 likely caught, we'd have to go through and figure
6 out what techniques you would use in each case?

7 MR. SEEGERT: I'm sorry. What was the
8 first part of your question?

9 MR. ETTINGER: If somebody wanted to
10 go through and see if there was any, shall we say,
11 size or depth bias in any of these collections, we'd
12 have to go through each of these and figure out
13 which technique you'd use?

14 MR. SEEGERT: I'm not sure I quite
15 understand the question. I mean, electrofishing is
16 considered to be a widely applied -- a gear that can
17 be widely applied, meaning used in a lot of
18 different places. It's going to be -- depending on
19 depth and other factors, it's going to be more
20 efficient or less efficient, but it's appropriate in
21 many different circumstances.

22 MR. ETTINGER: I wasn't suggesting
23 that something was inappropriate. I was just saying
24 if I was trying to decide whether there was any bias

1 in terms of the size or the depth in catching -- of
2 what you caught, I'd want to know what method you
3 used.

4 MR. SEEGERT: Yes, that's correct.

5 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Okay. Now,
6 turning to Page 6 of your testimony, you speak
7 of -- I'll just read the --

8 MS. FRANZETTI: Albert, this is not a
9 pre-filed question? So do we need to go look --

10 MR. ETTINGER: I'm going to -- it's
11 not a pre-filed question. "Fish species that are
12 habit generalists, such as common carp, gizzard
13 shad, and channel catfish, as well as pelagic
14 species, such as emerald shiner and fresh water
15 drum, do quite well with impounded systems.

16 What I want to ask you as to each
17 of those fish is whether it is temperature
18 intolerant.

19 MR. SEEGERT: Yeah.

20 MR. ETTINGER: And I don't want to put
21 words in your mouth, so how sensitive are common
22 carp to high temperatures, compared to other fish?

23 MR. SEEGERT: They are not temperature
24 sensitive.

1 MR. ETTINGER: And how are gizzard
2 shad.

3 MR. SEEGERT: Same answer.

4 MR. ETTINGER: Channel catfish?

5 MR. SEEGERT: The same answer.

6 MR. ETTINGER: Channel catfish are not
7 temperature sensitive?

8 MR. SEEGERT: Not in the spectrum of,
9 you know, from trout and one end and carp close to
10 the other end. But they're closer to the
11 nonsensitive end than the sensitive end.

12 MR. ETTINGER: Well, would channel
13 catfish be less sensitive than carp -- I'm
14 sorry -- more sensitive than carp?

15 MR. SEEGERT: To temperature?

16 MR. ETTINGER: Yes.

17 MR. SEEGERT: They're -- just going on
18 my recollection, I would say they're close, but
19 they're slightly more sensitive -- or
20 slightly -- yeah, slightly more sensitive than carp.

21 MR. ETTINGER: If you wanted to look
22 that up, what would you look at?

23 MR. SEEGERT: There's various
24 compilations that list upper lethal temperatures.

1 And certainly in some of the documents that
2 Mr. Yoder provided, he has such lists. So I'd go to
3 a list like that. Not necessarily his list, but a
4 list like that.

5 MR. ETTINGER: Where would you put
6 emerald shiner on the scale?

7 MR. SEEGERT: Well, for warm
8 water -- and again, for the Board's -- to clarify,
9 we're not -- we're talking here only about warm
10 water fish, because this isn't a cold water system.
11 It doesn't have trout and salmon, and it's not a
12 cool water system. So within the warm water
13 spectrum of fish, it's one of the more sensitive
14 species of warm water fish.

15 MR. ETTINGER: And where would fish
16 and freshwater drum fit into that?

17 MR. SEEGERT: They're kind of in the
18 middle. They're middle to high. In other words,
19 they're fairly temperature tolerant. Probably not
20 as tolerant as carp, but they're near the highest
21 end of that spectrum.

22 MR. ETTINGER: And where are gizzard
23 shad relative to carp?

24 MR. SEEGERT: Gizzard shad are less

1 sensitive, but they're at the high end of the
2 spectrum.

3 MR. ETTINGER: High end of the
4 tolerance spectrum?

5 MR. SEEGERT: Yes. They have a fairly
6 high upper lethal temperature.

7 MR. ETTINGER: Now, getting to
8 question -- no, let's do something else first.

9 On Page 7, you say no one has
10 seriously suggested that navigational use in the
11 CAWS would be discontinued in the foreseeable
12 future. Are you aware of the report by the --

13 MS. FRANZETTI: Can you -- Albert, I'm
14 sorry. Can you give him just a second?

15 MR. ETTINGER: It's the very last line
16 on Page 7.

17 MS. FRANZETTI: Page 7. Okay.

18 MR. SEEGERT: Okay.

19 MR. ETTINGER: Are you aware of the
20 recent report by the Alliance for the Great Lakes on
21 the -- that suggest that that system should be
22 closed to keep invasive species from traveling
23 through the system?

24 MR. SEEGERT: I'm generally aware that

1 the -- that some people have suggested that there
2 should be a disconnect between Lake Michigan and the
3 Ship Canal. I'm not familiar with the specific
4 report that you're citing.

5 MR. ETTINGER: And you don't know
6 whether they were serious or not?

7 MR. SEEGERT: No, I don't.

8 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Have you -- on
9 Page 6 of your testimony, you state that you discuss
10 the Fox River and, for example, extensive studies of
11 the nearby Fox River, funded in part by U.S. EPA,
12 documented significant and widespread adverse
13 impacts on the aquatic communities due to the
14 effects of the impounding.

15 And then we see Exhibit 2,
16 Attachment 3. The first question is easy. Is
17 Exhibit 2, Attachment 3, this paper by Victor
18 Santucci, Steven Gerhart, and Steven Pescatelli?

19 MR. SEEGERT: Yes, it is.

20 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. On Page 988 of
21 that study -- I supplied a copy. There's not
22 actually 988 pages in the record, we'll all be happy
23 to hear -- it states in the bottom of the left
24 column, "Phosphorus and nitrogen loading from

1 numerous potential sources, for example, municipal
2 wastewater treatment plants, fertile native and bed
3 material, agricultural fertilizers, and non-point
4 urban runoff, has made the Fox River below Elgin,
5 Illinois, among the most enriched rivers in the
6 Midwest."

7 "In combination with the presence
8 of numerous impoundments, high nutrient input has
9 created an environment that supports successive
10 algal growth. Daily cycles of photosynthesis and
11 respiration by abundant algae, in turn, produce
12 large fluctuations of DO and PH that often resulted
13 in substandard water quality conditions and
14 impoundments."

15 Are those conditions and the
16 phenomena that Mr. Santucci and others found in the
17 Fox River present in the Lower Des Plaines?

18 MS. FRANZETTI: Counsel, when you say
19 other phenomena?

20 MR. ETTINGER: Is the phenomena that I
21 discussed of nutrients combined with impoundments
22 causing diurnal flux and other problems that are
23 discussed in this report -- I don't want to read the
24 quote again -- present in the Lower Des Plaines?

1 MS. FRANZETTI: Well, my point is
2 only -- and you just did it again -- when you go
3 beyond what you just read --

4 MR. ETTINGER: I'm not going beyond --

5 MS. FRANZETTI: -- and say other
6 problems in this report.

7 MR. ETTINGER: The other problems
8 discussed in the reading that I made.

9 MR. SEEGERT: We have not specifically
10 looked at the nutrient issue in the Upper Dresden
11 island Pool or in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship
12 Canal. I do know that there are or can be some
13 fairly large fluctuations in the old values that
14 presumably would be a result of this -- the daily
15 cycle that you're referring to.

16 MR. ETTINGER: When you say we, do you
17 mean EA?

18 MR. SEEGERT: EA. So we have seen DO
19 values that -- well, we've seen -- let me rephrase
20 that.

21 I don't know if we've done any
22 work at night, so we don't know what the DO values
23 are at night. But we have seen highly elevated
24 levels during the day, indicating a lot of

1 photosynthesis going on. So we have -- we've
2 observed part of the cycle. We've observed high
3 dissolved oxygen concentrations at some locations
4 during the day.

5 MR. ETTINGER: So you don't know
6 whether the factor that is pointing to in this paper
7 is also present in the Lower Des Plaines or not?

8 MR. SEEGERT: No, I do not.

9 MR. ETTINGER: Going back to pre-filed
10 question number seven, what are the potential causes
11 of fish abnormalities?

12 MR. SEEGERT: Fish abnormalities are
13 caused by stress, disease, and toxicants,
14 particularly those toxicants that are in sediment.

15 MR. ETTINGER: What kind of diseases
16 do fish get?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Well, can you be more
18 specific?

19 MR. ETTINGER: Well, I asked a general
20 question because you gave a general answer. One of
21 the things that could be caused -- cause
22 abnormalities was disease. So what kind of diseases
23 would cause abnormalities in fish?

24 MR. SEEGERT: Yeah, they can get

1 tumors. They can get cancerous tumors, for example.
2 They can get various internal disease, they can get
3 bacterial kidney disease.

4 Now, you would not detect that by
5 any kind of external examination, but there's a
6 whole host of things that they can get. I guess
7 what -- let me modify my answer a little bit. I
8 was -- I think my answer applies mainly to that
9 subcategory of anomalies that we were talking about
10 as the DELT anomalies.

11 There's another whole group of
12 things that are just sort of the normal -- like a
13 black spot. And there's other things that
14 are -- little worms and flukes that the fish get
15 that are part of a various life cycle where herons
16 ingest the fish, and the thing goes in the heron and
17 it comes out in the heron poop, and so on and so
18 forth, and it goes back around in a circle.

19 Those aren't the kind of -- and
20 those are, kind of, normal things that fish get.
21 I'm talking about the abnormalities that have been
22 directed by -- directly related to poor fish
23 communities, and that's this subcategory of
24 abnormalities called DELT, the deformities,

1 erosions, lesions and tumors.

2 MR. ETTINGER: Let me limit my
3 question now to DELTs. And would your answer be the
4 same, stress causes DELTs?

5 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

6 MR. ETTINGER: And disease causes
7 DELTs?

8 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

9 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. What kind of
10 disease causes DELT?

11 MR. SEEGERT: I don't know what kind
12 of disease causes DELT.

13 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Does -- do
14 parasites cause DELT.

15 MR. SEEGERT: Generally no. As a
16 matter of fact, Mr. Vondruska may be able to amplify
17 on this. They specifically -- Ohio EPA -- they have
18 a lot of things -- they have a lot of protocols to
19 look at, and they have one specifically for
20 measuring DELT, and they specifically -- when you're
21 talking about lesions, basically you've got an area
22 on the fish where they've got a cut or some bare
23 skin.

24 And they specifically say do not

1 include areas where there might have been anchor
2 worm, which is a parasite. So they don't consider a
3 wound caused by an anchor worm to be a DELT anomaly.
4 That goes more into the just general anomalies.
5 It's not a DELT anomaly.

6 Joe, do you have anything to add
7 on that?

8 MR. VONDRUSKA: No. That's correct,
9 you have to be careful looking at the lesions to
10 make sure it's in the --

11 MR. ETTINGER: Would fungal growth be
12 a DELT anomaly?

13 MR. VONDRUSKA: Fungal growth,
14 not -- no.

15 MR. ETTINGER: Do fish have -- do fish
16 get fungal growth?

17 MR. VONDRUSKA: Sure. Now, getting
18 back to -- you had another question regarding DELTs.
19 I believe Ohio EPA's manual refers to flexi-bacteria
20 as causing, like, fin erosion.

21 MR. ETTINGER: So flexi-bacteria does
22 count for DELTs, but not other --

23 MR. SEEGERT: Well, it's the -- it's
24 the end result. The flexi-bacteria caused the fin

1 to be eaten away. So what you're measuring in the
2 DELT is fin erosion. Basically that bacteria is
3 literally eating away at that fin, and
4 flexi-bacteria are one of the things that can cause
5 fin erosion.

6 MR. ETTINGER: And what causes
7 flexi-bacteria?

8 MR. SEEGERT: My understanding --

9 MS. FRANZETTI: If you know.

10 MR. ETTINGER: You can always say I
11 don't know.

12 MS. FRANZETTI: Right.

13 MR. SEEGERT: Flexi-bacteria are in
14 the water. I think they're always there. And then
15 when fish get stressed, their immune system gets
16 refused and the flexi-bacteria are able to grab
17 hold.

18 Basically, other things are
19 reducing their immune system, and so it's not just
20 flexi -- that's one -- flexi-bacteria, that's just
21 one example they give. Anything that basically
22 really stresses out, you know, the fish seriously.

23 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Along with
24 Pollution Control Board hearings?

1 MR. VONDRUSKA: Well, but more
2 specific for fish, you talked about some of the
3 nest-builders. You know, some of the nest-builders,
4 when they're building their nest, they can
5 cause -- you know, they hurt their fins when they're
6 doing that, and flexi-bacteria can attack it, which
7 leads to fin erosion and sometimes form fin rays.

8 MR. ETTINGER: And can stressors add
9 on to each other? If a fish was facing a challenge,
10 like a high ammonia, would having a low dissolved
11 oxygen level make it less likely to do well?

12 MR. SEEGERT: I don't know that anyone
13 has specifically looked at what, if any, synergistic
14 interactions there might be between the various
15 factors. Just stress in general causes a problem,
16 whether it's purely additive -- there also may be
17 some that are antagonistic, but I don't think anyone
18 has investigated that closely enough to say how they
19 interact.

20 MR. ETTINGER: So if there's a lot of
21 aspirin in the water that might relieve stress?

22 MR. SEEGERT: Right, yeah. And on the
23 other hand, if they're worried about foreclosure or
24 loss of job, that might increase their stress level.

1 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. All right.
2 Looking now at the document that was
3 Attachment 1 -- I hope that's Attachment 1 --
4 Detailed Summary of EA Engineering Science and
5 Technology Stream Surveys for the Upper Illinois
6 Waterway, 1993 to 2006. I'm just making sure I read
7 this right. You've got mean IWB mod.

8 MR. SEEGERT: Sir, where are you
9 reading from?

10 MR. ETTINGER: I'm sorry. I'm on
11 Page 5. We've discussed this concept somewhat
12 before I think. I just want to make sure I
13 understand it in context. So the mean IWB mod, an
14 index of what the fish community health scores were,
15 and then you have numbers for Lockport?

16 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

17 MR. ETTINGER: What is the scale that
18 goes on?

19 MR. SEEGERT: Well, it's a log scale.
20 So in theory, you could get -- I don't know that
21 there's any absolute upper end. I mean, if you
22 caught one million fish, you'd get a very high
23 number. But in a practical sense, about the highest
24 value I've ever seen is about an 11.

1 MR. ETTINGER: Now, I forget, you said
2 below that, 5.2 and 5.3 are poor, and 6.5, at least,
3 is fair, according to this sheet. Where do those
4 ratings come from?

5 MR. SEEGERT: Well, in the last full
6 sentence -- well, the sentence immediately above the
7 scores that you're referring to says using IWB mod
8 criteria established by Ohio EPA. So we're using
9 their criteria, so it came from -- the cutoffs came
10 from Ohio EPA.

11 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. We went over
12 some of this before. Was that the criteria that
13 they developed after they decided they couldn't use
14 the IBI stores for nonweightable streams?

15 MR. SEEGERT: By they?

16 MR. ETTINGER: Meaning Ohio EPA.

17 MR. SEEGERT: Ohio EPA?

18 MR. ETTINGER: Well, let's --

19 MS. FRANZETTI: Counsel, is the
20 question is the IWB mod criteria something they
21 developed after they decided --

22 MR. ETTINGER: Well, why don't I just
23 drop -- what's your understanding of the development
24 of the IWB mod criteria?

1 MR. SEEGERT: It preceded the IBI that
2 the IBW -- not the mod version. IWB was developed
3 around 1970 by Dr. James Gamon during his work on
4 the Wabash River. And then Ohio EPA -- Mr. Yoder
5 was a former student of Dr. Gamon. So he learned it
6 from Dr. Gamon.

7 When Mr. Yoder went to Ohio EPA,
8 he thought this would be an appropriate thing to use
9 at my Agency, and so they started using it in its
10 unmodified form, and then at some point they decided
11 it was -- it should be modified, which they did, and
12 then also at or around that same time was when the
13 IBI was coming out.

14 So now, in most water bodies, Ohio
15 EPA uses both of those indexes to -- for fish to
16 determine detainment. They use both IWB mod and the
17 IBI.

18 MR. ETTINGER: Does EA use IB --
19 whatever it is?

20 MS. FRANZETTI: B?

21 MR. ETTINGER: B mod. Does EA use it?

22 MR. SEEGERT: Use it as compared to
23 the IWB? Or, I mean, what --

24 MR. ETTINGER: Do you use either of

1 them?

2 MR. SEEGERT: Yes, yes.

3 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Do you think
4 they're a sound methodology for assessing the health
5 in the aquatic community?

6 MS. FRANZETTI: And Albert, both IBI
7 and IWB mod, or IWB and IWB mod?

8 MR. ETTINGER: Why don't you --

9 MS. FRANZETTI: What's included in the
10 question?

11 MR. ETTINGER: Everything she said.

12 MS. FRANZETTI: I got to shut up.

13 MR. SEEGERT: We generally do not
14 use -- I guess the word is -- rely on the IWB.
15 Because in its original form, it did give too much
16 credit for highly tolerant fish. So we generally
17 don't use that.

18 We use the IWB mod, which consists
19 of taking -- I think it's 13 species of highly
20 tolerant fish -- and excluding them for most of the
21 IWB calculations. So that's what the modification
22 is. It just takes out highly tolerant fish.

23 So we use that regularly on the
24 Ohio River and a number of other places. We think

1 it's -- you know, it's a decent method. The IBI,
2 assuming there's, again, what I would call a
3 calibrated version available, I think overall is
4 somewhat better. I think it's more robust. I guess
5 that would be a way of describing it.

6 So the IWB mod isn't bad, but I
7 think the IBI is a little bit more sensitive
8 to -- it provides better resolution on determining
9 the health of the fish community.

10 MR. ETTINGER: Has EA engineering done
11 an analysis of the Brandon and Dresden Pool using
12 MWB mod analysis?

13 MR. SEEGERT: Well, that's
14 what -- maybe I'm misunderstanding the question.
15 That's what we did in this case.

16 MR. ETTINGER: Okay.

17 MS. FRANZETTI: Referring to Page 5?

18 MR. SEEGERT: Page 5 of Attachment 1.
19 I mean, these are scores that we calculated using
20 the data that we collected from the system following
21 the Ohio EPA modified IWB scoring instructions, and
22 these are the numbers we came up with. And then
23 based on where they put the different categories, we
24 said very poor, poor, or fair for the different

1 segments.

2 MR. ETTINGER: What exhibit are we up
3 to now?

4 MS. TIPSORD: 367.

5 MR. ETTINGER: I'll show you --

6 MS. TIPSORD: Because Susan hasn't
7 been keeping up with Fred.

8 MS. FRANZETTI: I'm a slacker.

9 MR. ETTINGER: 367.

10 MS. TIPSORD: No, this will be 368.

11 MR. ETTINGER: Oh, 368. I'm sorry.

12 MS. TIPSORD: I've been handed EA
13 Project 61393.26, Development of Biologically Based
14 Thermal Limits for the Lower Des Plaines River,
15 prepared for Midwest Generation, Chicago, Illinois,
16 Prepared by EA Engineering Science and Technology.
17 August 2007 is the date.

18 MS. FRANZETTI: And Counsel, I'll note
19 right off the bat, I will object to any questioning
20 that deals with thermal standards or limits at this
21 time.

22 MR. ETTINGER: I couldn't agree more.
23 In fact, I don't like documents about that nearly as
24 much as I like other parts of the document.

1 MS. TIPSORD: Well, let me finish. If
2 there's no objection, we will admit this as
3 Exhibit 368.

4 MS. FRANZETTI: No objection to its
5 admittance, just an objection as to the scope of the
6 questioning at this time.

7 MS. TIPSORD: And I will entertain
8 those if they should arise. With that, I'll mark it
9 as Exhibit 368.

10 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. I'd like now to
11 look at -- I guess it is Figure 1 -- which
12 is -- it's after Page 16 -- and ask you -- well,
13 first of all, did EA do this?

14 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

15 MR. ETTINGER: Who specifically did
16 that work for EA?

17 MR. SEEGERT: I believe this was
18 mainly a combination of myself and Mr. Vondruska.

19 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Now, these -- if
20 we just look at the upstream I-55 bridge numbers
21 here, does the -- I'm not quite sure how to read
22 these. These aren't river miles? Or what are the
23 units at the bottom here from 402 to 408?

24 MR. SEEGERT: Those are location

1 numbers that he established.

2 MR. ETTINGER: And how do they
3 correspond to river miles? Is there some way to
4 determine that?

5 MR. SEEGERT: There's no direct
6 correlation, no.

7 MR. ETTINGER: Does it correlate to
8 something that goes on with your QHEI data
9 collection?

10 MR. VONDRUSKA: Well, the sampling
11 location is listed at the bottom. We have -- for
12 every annual report, we have a list of sampling
13 locations which provide the river miles and how the
14 location was sampled.

15 MR. ETTINGER: All right. So we'd
16 have to figure that out. We've got some other
17 document that shows the sampling locations. Perhaps
18 they're in the record, perhaps not.

19 MS. FRANZETTI: I don't know that we
20 have it in this proceeding that would exist within
21 EA's records.

22 MR. VONDRUSKA: Well, sure. Part of
23 AS 96-10, the sample location designations are the
24 same.

1 MR. ETTINGER: Would it help -- but I
2 am reading this probably, that this 402 number is
3 the most upstream sampling location, and the 408 is
4 the most downstream sampling location within that
5 Pool?

6 MR. VONDRUSKA: Within upstream I-55
7 segments?

8 MR. ETTINGER: Yes.

9 MR. VONDRUSKA: Correct.

10 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. And to figure
11 out exactly where that was, we'd have to go in and
12 look at your sampling location information --

13 MR. VONDRUSKA: Yes.

14 MR. ETTINGER: -- so we can find that?

15 MR. VONDRUSKA: Yes.

16 MR. ETTINGER: And you believe it's
17 from a document that's already in the record?

18 MS. FRANZETTI: No, no. Actually, I
19 think not.

20 MR. ETTINGER: Okay.

21 MS. WILLIAMS: What about one of the
22 attachments -- I want to say maybe M.

23 MS. FRANZETTI: I think this goes --

24 MS. WILLIAMS: MM would be one of EA's

1 annual reports of Midwest Generation's annual
2 reports. Would it be contained within --

3 MR. VONDRUSKA: I don't have my
4 glasses today. I'm sorry.

5 MS. TIPSORD: Yeah. Attachment MM to
6 the proposal is 2004 Lower Des Plaines River
7 Fisheries Investigation, River Mile 274.4 through
8 285.5 EA Engineering, et cetera.

9 And you had mentioned before
10 they're in the annual report, so we can look at that
11 document and correlate where these are located.

12 MR. VONDRUSKA: Yes.

13 MR. ETTINGER: Do any of our -- are
14 any of your sample locations in the discharge canal
15 from the Joliet plant?

16 MR. VONDRUSKA: Yes, location 403.

17 MR. ETTINGER: 403 is actually inside
18 the discharge canal, or --

19 MR. VONDRUSKA: Yes.

20 MR. ETTINGER: Okay.

21 MR. VONDRUSKA: Actually, specifically
22 there's 250 meters within the Joliet 9 discharge
23 canal, and 250 meters within the Joliet 29 discharge
24 canal until you have about a 500-meter zone.

1 MR. ETTINGER: Do you measure at the
2 end of the canal or top of the canal?

3 MR. VONDRUSKA: Measure what?

4 MR. ETTINGER: Whatever you're
5 measuring. Is your location at the end of the canal
6 or up at the discharge point?

7 MR. VONDRUSKA: It starts at the
8 upstream end. For example, the location,
9 specifically Joliet Station 29, Units 7 and 8
10 discharge canal, we start upstream in it, and we end
11 above the discharge for the cooling towers.
12 Joliet 9 -- okay.

13 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. I'm --

14 MR. VONDRUSKA: You were asking where
15 we sample this.

16 MR. ETTINGER: Yeah. I'm just trying
17 to figure out where the samplers is in relation to
18 the actual discharge point.

19 MS. FRANZETTI: Well, what are you
20 defining as the actual discharge point?

21 MR. ETTINGER: The place where the
22 water comes out.

23 MS. FRANZETTI: Where it meets the
24 river?

1 MR. ETTINGER: Yes.

2 MS. FRANZETTI: Where the end of the
3 canal meets the river?

4 MR. ETTINGER: That's what I'm asking.
5 Are you measuring it where the end of the canal
6 meets the river, or at some other site?

7 MR. VONDRUSKA: Well, I guess I'm a
8 little bit confused.

9 MS. TIPSORD: I am, too, because your
10 question was do you measure in the canal. Now
11 you've changed the question.

12 MR. ETTINGER: Well, maybe I have.
13 Just where do you measure with regard -- is this at
14 the hottest point or at the cooler? Where is it
15 gotten?

16 MR. VONDRUSKA: What am I measuring
17 here?

18 MR. ETTINGER: Yeah, exactly.

19 MR. VONDRUSKA: Specify that.

20 MS. TIPSORD: Let me try it, Albert.
21 You just identified 403 on Exhibit 368 at whatever
22 page that number is --

23 MS. FRANZETTI: Figure 1.

24 MS. TIPSORD: -- Figure 1 as

1 being -- measuring temperature in the canal. Is
2 that within the canal itself?

3 MR. VONDRUSKA: Or measuring
4 temperature, yes.

5 MS. TIPSORD: Or is it where the river
6 meets the canal?

7 MR. VONDRUSKA: No, it's within to the
8 canal, close to the discharge.

9 MS. TIPSORD: Close to the pike?

10 MR. VONDRUSKA: Yes.

11 MS. TIPSORD: Thank you. Since we
12 just defined the discharge as being lengthy -- so
13 the 403 is within the canal close to the pipe.
14 Thank you.

15 MR. VONDRUSKA: But in terms of the
16 fish sampling -- that's why we're measuring a
17 physical chemical parameter, such as the ones where
18 you measure water temperature or dissolved oxygen,
19 or if we're measuring the, quote, unquote, "Fish
20 community." That's where I was confused.

21 MS. FRANZETTI: Is that a different
22 location than where you measured temperature?

23 MR. VONDRUSKA: Well, again, it's
24 250 meters that we sample in each discharge canal

1 for electrofishing, and those get combined into a
2 500-meter sample.

3 MR. ETTINGER: So am I to understand
4 then that the -- there's enough of a fish community
5 that's actually in the discharge canal that it
6 scores a 5.5 here?

7 MR. VONDRUSKA: I can't tell what it
8 scored, but yes, there is enough in the fish
9 community.

10 MR. SEEGERT: About that, yes.

11 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. And then what's
12 403A?

13 MR. VONDRUSKA: 403A represents a
14 sample downstream of the discharge canal.

15 MR. ETTINGER: I'd like to turn
16 above -- we're going to be very careful as to the
17 portions we read here to avoid the objections.

18 MS. FRANZETTI: Thank you.

19 MR. ETTINGER: On Page 7, it states,
20 "Below 65 Farenheit and above 85 Farenheit --

21 MR. SEEGERT: I'm sorry. Where are --

22 MS. FRANZETTI: Albert, I'm sorry.

23 But there's a lot of Page 7. Can you get us to --

24 MR. ETTINGER: Well, the last full

1 paragraph. I'll just read the whole -- well, I
2 can't read --

3 MS. FRANZETTI: The paragraph that
4 begins, "As can be seen?"

5 MR. ETTINGER: As can be seen, yes.

6 MR. SEEGERT: Okay.

7 MR. ETTINGER: "The lowest procedure
8 also yields a basically inverted U curve. For
9 species richness, the lowest procedure indicates
10 that richness is a similar cause of a fairly broad
11 temperature plateau from about 65 Farenheit to 85
12 Farenheit."

13 MS. FRANZETTI: 87.

14 MR. ETTINGER: 87, sorry. Figure 6,
15 "Below 65 Farenheit and above 87 Farenheit, richness
16 appears to decrease. To determine at what
17 temperature species richness was reduced
18 significantly, richness at various high temperatures
19 was compared to richness at a .72 degrees Farenheit,
20 representative of the plateau."

21 Because -- well, we can all read
22 the rest of the paragraph here. Well, maybe I'll
23 put it in the record. "Because multiple sequential
24 comparisons were made, a P value of 0.01 was used to

1 determine significance. It was found that richness
2 was significantly lower at 90 degrees Farenheit."

3 I'm going to ask first about the P
4 value. What does that mean?

5 MR. SEEGERT: Well, that's the
6 probability. The probability that the result that
7 you get -- and I'm not answering now as a
8 statistician, but as a biologist -- but it's the
9 probability that -- the difference that you see is
10 just random, just by chance. So when you get down
11 to the low probabilities, you say, "I don't think
12 this is a real difference." It's because the chance
13 gets so low.

14 MR. ETTINGER: So there's basically
15 only a four percent chance that the difference
16 between 89 and 72 is chance?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Well, again, I don't
18 think it's quite that simple in this case, because
19 of it being sequentials -- and we worked with an
20 outside biostatistician -- I guess I'd call it
21 pretty high-powered stuff beyond my expertise on the
22 statistic side of things.

23 So we went to an outside
24 biostatistician, and his -- we did what his -- what

1 he said, which is in this case, because you're
2 making multiple sequential comparisons, that you
3 want to use work at a .01 level. And so that's what
4 we did. When you get down to 90, then it goes
5 below .01.

6 MR. ETTINGER: Well, we're all
7 fortunate that that statistician is not here today,
8 so I won't be able to ask him any questions, and
9 I'll just have to go on. Thank you.

10 MR. ANDES: How long are we going on
11 for?

12 MR. ETTINGER: Oh, I don't know. Half
13 an hour maybe. You can leave.

14 MR. ANDES: No, I can't.

15 MR. OTTO: Are you going to use any of
16 your pre-filed questions?

17 MR. ETTINGER: I will eventually.
18 I've used a lot of them.

19 I'd like to look at -- these are
20 very pretty.

21 MR. SEEGERT: I agree. I like them.

22 MS. FRANZETTI: For the record?

23 MS. TIPSORD: For the record?

24 MR. ETTINGER: For the record -- well,

1 I'm not quite sure what they are.

2 MS. TIPSORD: What is very pretty?

3 MR. ETTINGER: That was going to be my
4 next question. What are these?

5 MS. FRANZETTI: I think they have a
6 title.

7 MR. ETTINGER: But I will say it's
8 listed as Attachment F, figures showing QHEI score
9 distributions for the July 2005 study. So I believe
10 that's Attachment 2F to Greg Seegert's testimony.
11 Is that correct?

12 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

13 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. What, in
14 general, are these pretty things?

15 MR. SEEGERT: Okay. These are a
16 graphical representation of the various QHEI scores
17 that we measured during our 2008 -- July of 2008
18 survey. And for ease of comparison, I broke -- we
19 broke -- Mr. Vondruska and I worked on this
20 together -- broke this into categories.

21 Basically we were asking the
22 question how much good habitat is out there, habitat
23 that everyone would pretty much agree should support
24 aquatic life -- Clean Water Act aquatic life goals,

1 and that was anything above 60.

2 We heard a lot of testimony
3 about -- there's this, kind of, gray area in
4 between, which is 45 through 59. And then depending
5 on the specific circumstances, an area that had a
6 habitat score within that range may or may not
7 obtain, and then pretty much everyone was in the
8 green. Then when you get to 45 or below, habitat is
9 poor, and you're most likely not going to attain.

10 So we want to put things just in a
11 simple three color system that said how much of this
12 area is good, how much is fair, and how much is
13 poor. And we were also able to -- this, I guess,
14 stippled or cross hatched area in the center
15 represents the river channel.

16 So that -- the width of this
17 figure, think of this as the actual channel. It's
18 obviously, kind of, stylized, but this represents
19 the width of the channel at any particular point.
20 And then based on where the actual river channel
21 started, that's how far from the shore -- out to
22 where the navigation channel started, that's where
23 we did our QHEIs.

24 So the stippled area in the

1 center, represents where we did not do a formal
2 QHEI. And the take home message I get from this is
3 that green is good. There's almost no green on this
4 map.

5 MR. ETTINGER: Well, let's ask about
6 that. First of all, the boats seem to be having to
7 take a very sharp turn at mile 283. Is that because
8 of the style, or what happened?

9 MR. SEEGERT: No, it's because the
10 channel -- the navigation channel changes.

11 MR. ETTINGER: Okay.

12 MR. VONDRUSKA: It makes a big bend.

13 MR. ETTINGER: All right. And so if
14 we look at green is good and yellow is fair, it
15 looks like we have -- what, we have green at the
16 top, and we have yellow at about mile 280 down?

17 MR. SEEGERT: Well, from 280 to 279.

18 MR. ETTINGER: And that's
19 Figure 2 F-A -- I'm sorry -- 2 F-1. And in using
20 the modified scores, we get the same picture
21 basically?

22 MR. SEEGERT: Well, his --

23 MS. FRANZETTI: Albert, I think, just
24 mentioned a different figure number for the modified

1 scores.

2 MR. ETTINGER: Yes. Figure F-2 is the
3 narrative habitat classification based on MBI
4 modified QHEI scores.

5 MR. SEEGERT: Correct. So those are
6 the scores based on what Mr. Yoder testified to
7 were -- was the more appropriate, because they took
8 into account the impounding of the river. So I
9 would take this to be the more accurate
10 representation.

11 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Now, where does
12 the impounding stop in this chart?

13 MR. SEEGERT: At -- basically where
14 the green ends.

15 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. So we don't have
16 to make an -- we don't have to make an adjustment to
17 that portion of the pool under the modified --

18 MR. SEEGERT: It's good under both
19 cases, because it's not modified. So the adjustment
20 for modification doesn't come into play at all.

21 MR. ETTINGER: So there's no --

22 MR. SEEGERT: I'm sorry. Well, I'm
23 talking about modified as referred to -- MBI
24 modified their technique based on impoundment or

1 not -- based on the area as being impounded.

2 So because in this area the tail
3 waters were not impounded, they didn't -- it doesn't
4 make any difference whether you use the modified
5 version or the unmodified version.

6 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Have you ever
7 studied the temperatures above the Joliet plant and
8 below the Brandon Road Lock and Dam?

9 MR. SEEGERT: I'm sorry. What area?

10 MR. ETTINGER: Well, the green area we
11 were talking about there. Have you looked at the
12 temperatures specifically in that area?

13 MR. SEEGERT: We measured temperature
14 in conjunction with all the biological collections
15 that we made. So I would say yes.

16 MR. ETTINGER: Based on that study,
17 are the temperatures higher or lower than the
18 temperatures below the Joliet plant?

19 MR. SEEGERT: I'm not sure I can
20 answer that. Joe, can you?

21 MR. VONDRUSKA: The Brandon tail
22 waters compared to downstream of the plants?

23 MR. ETTINGER: Yes.

24 MR. VONDRUSKA: You know, I guess in

1 general most of the times it's higher downstream of
2 the plants, but there's times when it's similar.

3 MR. ETTINGER: Have you -- you've
4 heard of heat attracting fish during the winter?

5 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

6 MR. ETTINGER: How does that work?

7 MR. SEEGERT: Fish are attracted to
8 heat.

9 MR. ETTINGER: And they swim miles
10 upstream in order to be warm?

11 MR. SEEGERT: They might swim a few
12 miles. Well, they have to be able to detect it. If
13 there's a fish that's outside any temperature
14 grading, then it has no way of knowing that it's
15 warm up there. So if they can detect a temperature
16 gradient, then they could follow that for some
17 distance.

18 MR. ETTINGER: Does heat affect the
19 toxicity of any pollutants?

20 MR. SEEGERT: I don't believe I can
21 answer that question.

22 MR. ETTINGER: Do you know of any
23 relationship or lack of relationship between heat
24 and fungal diseases?

1 MR. SEEGERT: I don't know the answer
2 to that either.

3 MR. ETTINGER: How do -- does the
4 temperature affect the time at which fish eggs
5 hatch?

6 MR. SEEGERT: Yes.

7 MR. ETTINGER: Is temperature one of
8 the things that causes the fish to know when to do
9 their thing?

10 MR. SEEGERT: Fish are going to
11 respond to temperature as a general queue so that
12 all other things being equal -- and that's a big
13 assumption. But if everything else is exactly
14 equal, then when temperatures are warmer, either
15 because of a heat input or just naturally sometimes
16 you get a warm spring versus a cool spring, then the
17 time at which spawning occurs will be adjusted
18 somewhat.

19 It doesn't -- you know, there's a
20 limit. You're not going to have something spawn
21 three months ahead of time, but it might span a week
22 or two ahead of time than under cooler
23 circumstances.

24 MR. ETTINGER: Have you ever

1 calculated the QHEI scores from Hickory Creek,
2 Jackson Creek, Prairie Creek, or any other tributary
3 into the Lower Des Plaines?

4 MR. SEEGERT: Now, is this a pre-filed
5 question?

6 MR. ETTINGER: It actually is.

7 MR. SEEGERT: Wow.

8 MR. ETTINGER: I wanted to please
9 whoever in the audience was asking.

10 MS. FRANZETTI: Number 24. He just
11 doesn't like to tell you when it is.

12 MR. SEEGERT: Okay. We calculated
13 QHEIs for the tributary mouth locations we sampled.
14 Specifically, that means Jackson Creek, Grant Creek,
15 and the Upper Des Plaines River. But except for the
16 Upper Des Plaines, we do not sample any of the
17 free-flowing areas of the tributaries because we're
18 interested in conditions within the river, not in
19 its tributary.

20 So we don't really think
21 that -- contrary to what Ms. Barghusen stated during
22 her testimony, we don't believe that the areas
23 depend on one another. The tributaries don't have a
24 big effect on what's going on within the main stem

1 of the river and vice versa.

2 MR. ETTINGER: Okay. Let's ask 27.
3 Why is it that darters and redhorse are sometimes
4 found in the Upper Dresden Pool?

5 MR. SEEGERT: Well, they're found
6 there occasionally, but never in large numbers, and
7 they're never found in large numbers because the
8 habitat is suboptimal for both groups.

9 MR. ETTINGER: Where is his resume?

10 MS. TIPSORD: Exhibit 1 to Attachment
11 36.

12 MR. ETTINGER: Yes. In -- let's wait
13 on that. Sorry. It's fine, but we'll get to talk
14 to you again probably later. I think we're done.

15 MS. TIPSORD: All right. Are there
16 any other questions for Mr. Seegert? All right.
17 Seeing none, let's go off the record for just a
18 couple seconds.

19 (Whereupon, a discussion was had
20 off the record.)

21 MS. TIPSORD: Our next set of hearings
22 will be January 13th and 14th. As I said, we have a
23 Clean Air act rule that will take up the only
24 availability in December, and we are going to be

1 sandwiched in between the Clean Air Act rules on
2 January 13th and 14th, at which time we will talk to
3 Dr. Burton. If we can get done on the 13th,
4 wonderful. If not, I will do a hearing officer
5 order that resets the room and reiterates that it's
6 Dr. Burton.

7 Thank you again to your
8 patients, your time, and everybody have a safe trip
9 home.

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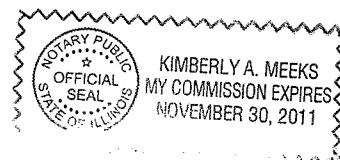
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REBECCA A. GRAZIANO, being first
duly sworn on oath says that she is a court reporter
doing business in the City of Chicago; that she
reported in shorthand the proceedings given at the
taking of said hearing and that the foregoing is a
true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes
so taken as aforesaid and contains all the
proceedings given at said hearing.

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Notary Public



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